

## **RESPONSE**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are submitted pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.112 in response to the Office Action of October 24, 2001.

## **AMENDMENTS**

## IN THE CLAIMS:

## Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of manufacturing an annular member from a discshaped metal sheet material defining an outer periphery, comprising the steps of:

forming the disc-shaped metal sheet to have a non-processed portion including a stepped portion defined by an inclined wall;

rotating the disc-shaped metal sheet material;